

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 20, 2010, the Assignee respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above amendments and on the following remarks.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claim 16 was previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Rejection of Claims 1-15 under § 102 (e)

The Office rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,142,503 to Grant, *et al.*

These claims, however, are not anticipated by *Grant*. These claims have been amended to recite, or to incorporate, features that are not disclosed or suggested by *Grant*. Independent claim 1, for example, has been amended to recite “physically connecting a first physical medium to a residential gateway,” “physically connecting a second physical medium to the residential gateway,” and “physically connecting the second physical medium to another residential gateway in another subscriber’s premises” (emphasis added). Support for these features may be found at least in the as-filed application at paragraphs [0004] and [0015]. Independent claims 9 and 15 recite similar features.

Grant does not anticipate at least these features. *Grant* describes wireless gateways that form virtual neighborhood networks. See U.S. Patent 7,142,503 to Grant, *et al.* at column 7, lines 50-62. Because *Grant*’s gateways utilize wireless, RF signals, though, *Grant* fails to teach or suggest first and second mediums that are “*physically connect[ed]*” to the residential gateway. While *Grant* does briefly mention that “direct wireline connection ... between houses” may be used, *Grant* provides no further teaching. This meager disclosure, then, cannot be reasonably equivalent to “*physically connecting*” a first physical medium and a second physical medium to

the residential gateway” and then “*logically bonding*” the second physical medium to provide additional bandwidth. *Grant*, then, cannot anticipate the independent claims.

Claims 1-15, then, are not anticipated by *Grant*. Independent claims 1, 9, and 15 recite many features that are not disclosed or suggested by *Grant*. The dependent claims incorporate these same features and recite additional features. Claims 1-15, then, cannot be anticipated, so the Office is respectfully requested to remove the § 102 (e) rejection of these claims.

If any issues remain outstanding, the Office is requested to contact the undersigned at (919) 469-2629 or scott@scottzimmerman.com.

37 C.F.R. § 1.8 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted via the USPTO EFS web interface on October 8, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott P. Zimmerman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott P. Zimmerman
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